

The Evening Herald.

Published by

THE EVENING HERALD, INC.
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Published every afternoon except Sunday at 124 North Second Street, Albuquerque, N. M.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Albuquerque, N. M., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

One month by mail or carrier.....
One week by carrier.....
One year by mail or carrier
in advance.....
\$5.00**Telephones:**Business Office 924
Editorial Rooms 167**A SYSTEM ALL WRONG.**

ATTONEY GENERAL CLANCY has given an opinion to the effect that under the New Mexico statute the mayor is not a member of the city council and therefore has no right to cast the deciding vote in favor of any of his appointees, in case of a tie vote in the council. This ruling, should it be sustained by the courts, may easily mean that any municipal government in New Mexico may be tied up at any time so that effective action is impossible. The attorney general's opinion is based upon judicial decisions of courts in other states where statutes similar to that of New Mexico are in effect, and these seem to furnish very reasonable ground for the conclusion reached by Mr. Clancy.

The opinion is important not so much in its effect upon any pending matters of confirmation, as in the light it casts upon our present system of municipal government, which appears to be surrounded by every possible influence and circumstance likely to work for ineffective action or stagnation.

We work and sweat and fume over the election of a mayor only to find that the mayor has practically no power at all, save to look wise and sign proclamations. Our city councils in all cases consist of even numbers, since we elect two from each ward. That being the case, whenever an even number happens to be opposed to the mayor the obstructing half can suspend the municipal administration high and dry—leave it helpless, and incidentally leave the municipality without any effective administrative force.

The system of municipal government in effect in Albuquerque and all New Mexico cities but one is defective, cumbersome and difficult of successful operation under most favorable conditions. Throw a few bolts into the machinery and the operation suspends. There are nearly always a few loose bolts rattling around in the works. For the past half dozen years some kind of contest has been constantly pending in the Albuquerque city government; some kind of a disturbing influence which has been a source of trouble, dissension, obstruction. The very countenance of the town itself is an obstruction to prompt effective action. The council has no power save to deliberate endlessly.

SOME DYE HISTORY.

LADIES and gentlemen whose interests next fall will look the clear-cut, outstanding colors of former seasons, and who in many fabrics of every-day use will be forced to do with the shades of basic dyes or mixtures that are "fancy," will be interested in a brief sketch of the history of aniline or coal-tar dyes given in a current bulletin of the National Geographic Society.

"The United States, like many other countries," says the bulletin, "is looking longingly over more to African madder root for its 'Turkish-red' to India's indigo for its blues, to Mexico's cochineal for its scarlets, to Central America's logwood for its blues and browns, to our own oak trees for their spicery yellow, and, no doubt, to the peculiar Mediterranean saffron for its purple, for the manufacture of the Texan shade beloved by emperors in one of the so-called lost arts."

"But these ancient vegetable dyes, some of which were in use when the mammy clothes were being made for the pyramid builders of Egypt, have never replaced the red war dyes which during the six years since they were accidentally discovered, have revolutionized the art of adding color to clothing, our houses, our inks, our shoes, our wall paper, our hats and our book bindings. In fact aniline dyes furnish almost all of the modern dyes for which man is responsible."

"It was in 1856 that a young English chemist, while trying to produce artificial quinine, distilled from camphor a substance which had a singular maure tint. This was the first of the aniline dyes, dyes which have now

replaced which occasions the waste of many stamps every day. It is impossible to compute Postmaster General Burleson has our consent to go to three-cent postage, if he will only give us less telegraph stamps. It would save us considerable money."

MARCH FOREIGN TRADE THE GREATEST.

ACCORDING to preliminary returns made public by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce department of commerce, \$1 million dollars worth of goods was exported from the United States in March. This exceeds the corrected total for February by \$1 million dollars and is more goods than any nation ever exported before in any one month. It is \$13 millions more than the previous March and is nearly double the March average for the preceding five years. If the nine months ending with March exports fall below a million dollars short of \$1 billion dollars thus exceeding by more than \$1 billion dollars the record for the corresponding period of any preceding fiscal year.

March imports amounted to \$14 million dollars, exceeding by \$1 million the previous record of February, by \$6 million the total for March, 1915, and by 39 per cent the March average for the preceding five years. Nine months imports to March 21 last aggregated \$129 million dollars, compared with \$124 million last year and \$142 in 1912-13, the former record year. Of March imports 87 per cent entered free of duty.

The month's export balance was \$16 million dollars, compared with \$39 million in March, 1915, and \$1 million in March, 1914. For the nine months of the present fiscal year to date above an export surplus of \$191 million dollars, being more than double that of last year and more than three times that of two years ago. Present indications point to an export balance of \$1 billion dollars in the end of the fiscal year.

Gold imports during March totaled \$8,750,000, compared with \$20,457 in March, 1915, and \$7,442,149 in March, 1914, and for the nine months to March 31, 1916, \$357,851,233, amounting \$11,887,626 in 1915, and \$12,288,712 in 1914. Gold exports in March totaled \$10,174,234, compared with \$223,821 in March, 1915, and \$8,542,015 in March, 1914. Gold exports in the nine months under review aggregated \$15,215,928, compared with \$100,386,000 last year. Nine months of the current fiscal year show a net inward gold movement of \$270,000 as against a net outward movement of \$53,123,224 in a like period of the preceding year and a net inward gold movement of \$16,500,000 in nine months of 1915-16.

ANILINE DYES.

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"It was in 1856 that a young English chemist, while trying to produce artificial quinine, distilled from camphor a substance which had a singular maure tint. This was the first of the aniline dyes, dyes which have now

been produced in nearly a thousand commercial shades, ten of which are ready used. This young chemist William Henry Perkin, secured capital from his father and began the manufacture of dyes, as a result of which he was knighted and amassed a fortune. His discovery immediately attracted the attention of German manufacturers who aided by German bankers, employed university chemists and established dye plants on the Rhine and Main rivers, inaugurating an industry which has enjoyed phenomenal success. At the outbreak of the present great war twenty-one manufacturing establishments, most of them within an area of 120 square miles, had a practical world monopoly of the aniline dye trade.

"It is not a coincidence that twelve of Germany's biggest dye factories are located at Elisen, adjacent to the leading mining plants of the Teutonic empire. The same coal tar which produces dyes also furnishes the essential ingredients of the high explosives used in the shells of the 18-inch guns which scattered down the torts of Siege and which fill the head of the deadly submarine torpedo.

"Up to the time of Perkin's specific discovery, coal tar was the despised by-product when coal was burned to produce coke and benzene.

"Today the once despised

material has become, as it were, the keystone in the manufacture not only of dyes but high explosives, gunpowder, perfumes, photographic developers andnumerous medicinal compounds known as earliest preparations.

"At the outbreak of the world-war the United States was importing aniline from Germany about \$15,000,000 worth of aniline dyes. The discontinuance of these dye shipments has had an effect upon our industries not at all proportion to the actual value of imports for the manufacturing establishments in this country which used these dyes employ more than 25,000 workers and many of the factories have been forced to run half time or even less.

"The increase in the prices of some of the dyes already compared with the astonishing increase in the prices of dyes in some of the war countries. For instance, patent blue has registered the astonishing advance from 10 cents to \$24 a pound, other dyes which formerly sold for 25 cents a gallon now bring \$12.

"Since 1912 the United States has produced only about 20 per cent of the dyes needed in domestic manufac-

turing."

DO YOU KNOW THESE?

William A. Brady is a publisher of Broadway hits for World Film.

The eye of a fly has been photographed by a motion picture camera.

Frogs' directors never permit the actors of actresses to use makeup.

Kitty Gordon, the World Film star is the Hon. Mrs. H. H. Bertrand who

is not acting.

Alton Jones has never been in the stage in his life.

Clark Gable Young is still with the World Film Corporation.

Thomas A. Edison is making fewer pictures every year.

There will be two distinct motion picture exhibitions in New York during the month of May.

Without shear cost over four thousand miles in one week, the pictures

of William Fox, once worked in a spinning place in Brooklyn. It's not what you were, it's what you are.

Gaff Karpis, the most notorious motorcycle bandit. The other sister.

A new film magazine is launched every week.

Lillian Russell is a judge in Photo

graph contests here.

Edgar Allan Poe, the author was

made with Bertie Mordiford in the book.

O. W. Wilson, a character in another

book.

Mother

Mountain

Pepper

Philippine

Philippine